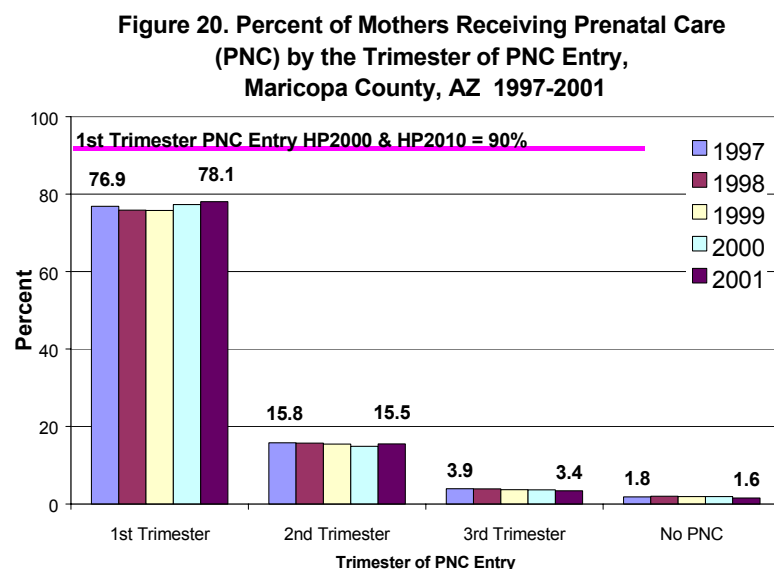


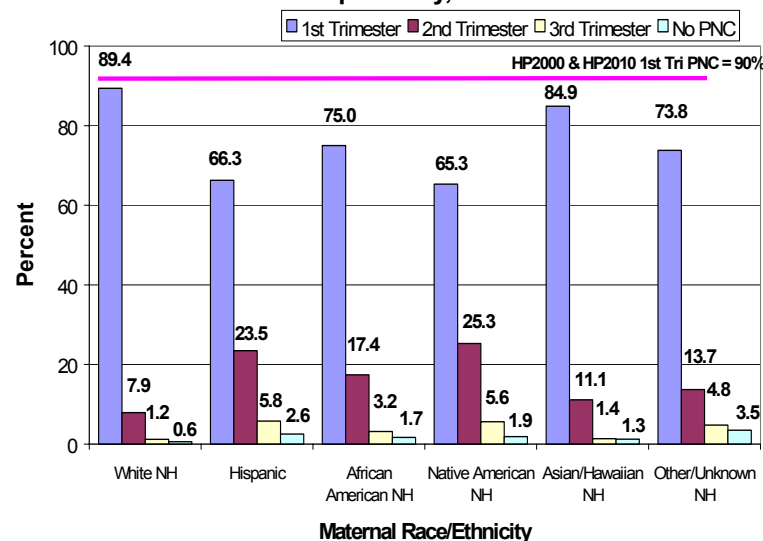
## SECTION V. PRENATAL CARE

Many perinatal complications leading to death, disease, and disability can potentially be reduced by pregnancy-related health care. The Healthy People 2000 and 2010 objective is to have at least 90% of women initiating prenatal care during the first trimester of pregnancy. Maricopa County has not reached the objective; in 2001, only 78%, or 43,429, women entered prenatal care during the first trimester (Figure 20).



As shown in Figure 20, 1.6% of the Maricopa County women who gave birth during 2001 did not receive any prenatal care, which represents 864 births. An additional 1,897 women did not initiate prenatal care until their third trimester of pregnancy.

**Figure 21. Percent Distribution of Mothers by Trimester of Prenatal Care Entry within Maternal Race/Ethnicity Categories, Maricopa County, AZ 2001**



The percent of Non-Hispanic White women (89.4%) and Asian women (84.9%) almost reached the Healthy People objective of 90% for first trimester entry into prenatal care. Only 65.3% of Native American women and 66.3% of Hispanic women, however, received prenatal care during the first trimester. Figure 21 shows the percent of mothers who received prenatal care within each race/ethnicity by trimester of entry.

Compared with women in their thirties (85.5%), younger women were less likely to initiate prenatal care in the first trimester. Only 77.3% of women between the ages of 20 and 29 and 63.2% of women under age 20 received first trimester prenatal care (see Figure 22).

**Figure 22. Percent Distribution of Mothers by Trimester of Prenatal Care Entry by Maternal Age Group, Maricopa County, AZ 2001**

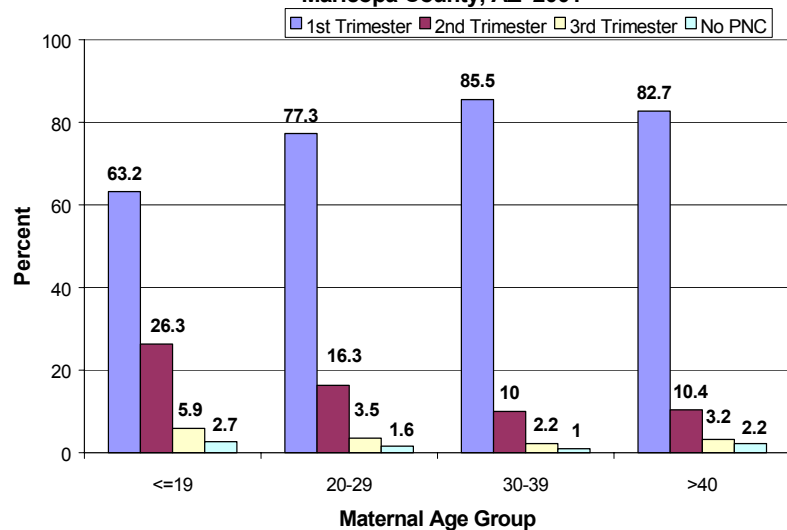
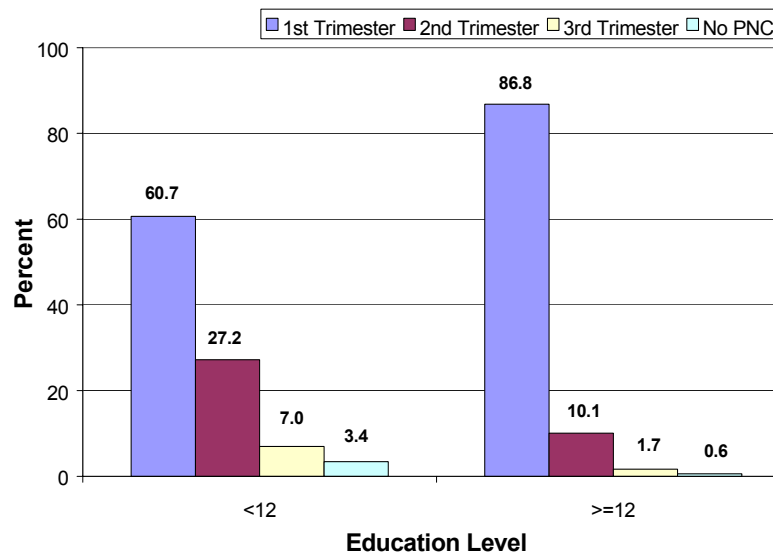


Figure 23 shows that 86.8% of Maricopa County women with at least 12 years of education initiated prenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy, whereas only 60.7% of women with less than a twelfth grade education did.

**Figure 23. Percent of Mothers by Trimester of Prenatal Care Entry by Education Level, Maricopa County, AZ 2001**



The percent of women receiving four or fewer prenatal care visits decreased from 6.0% in 1997 to 5.0% in 2001. Those who had no prenatal care visits decreased from 1.8% to 1.6%. Figure 24 displays the percent distribution of mothers by the number of prenatal care visits.

